

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03336 301726Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8603

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3336

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GR CY TU

SUBJECT: FIRST SESSION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN VIENNA

1. DURING A MEETING WITH MIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS TZOUNIS ON APR 30, HE INFORMED ME THAT HE WAS NOT ENCOURAGED FROM THE FIRST REPORTS HE HAD SEEN ABOUT THE CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS IN VIENNA. ALTHOUGH CLERIDES HAD TABLED A PAPER WITH SOME PROPOSALS ON THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, DENKTASH RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT. WHEN CLERIDES TRIED TO RAISE THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE, DENKTASH RESPONDED THAT THIS DEPENDED ON AGREEMENT ON THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND HE WAS THEREFORE NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION EITHER. AT ANOTHER POINT DURING THE MEETING, TZOUNIS SAID, DENKTASH INDICATED THAT THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION DEPENDED ON WHETHER AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED ON A BIZONAL FEDERATION.

2. TZOUNIS POINTED OUT THAT, AS HE SAW IT, THE MAIN BARGAINING WAS GOING TO BE OVER THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE COMMENTED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH BITSIOS EARLIER THAT THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERABLE. I RESPONDED THAT ALTHOUGH I REMEMBERED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS QUESTION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, I DID NOT RECALL THAT THE SECRETARY HAD AGREED

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PAGE 02 ATHENS 03336 301726Z

ON THE NATURE OR EXTENT OF THE POWERS THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN

TO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

3. TZOUNIS THEN RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT FEDERATED STATE WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED OFFICIALLY. HE RECALLED THAT EARLIER DENKTASH HAD ANNOUNCED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD ORGANIZE THEIR OWN FEDERATED STATE AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS COULD DO LIKEWISE AND THE TWO FEDERATED STATES COULD THEN BE AMALGAMATED INTO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS. THE GREEKS AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE VERY CONCERNED THAT IF DENKTASH PROCEEDED TO PUBLISH THE CONSTITUTION OF HIS FEDERATED STATE IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE THIS WOULD PRESENT THEM WITH ANOTHER FAIT ACCOMPLI AFFECTING THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND WOULD THUS FURTHER COMPLICATE ANY POSSIBILITY OF REACHING A SETTLEMENT.

4. ACCORDING TO TZOUNIS, CLERIDES HAD MADE THIS POINT TO UNSYG WALDHEM WHO SEEMED TO APPRECIATE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION THAT WOULD RESULT. HE IMPLIED THAT WALDHEIM HAD INDICATED TO CLERIDES THAT HE WOULD TRY TO USE HIS INFLUENCE TO HEAD THIS OFF. TZOUNIS THEN ASKED WHETHER WE ALSO COULD USE OUR INFUENCE, PERHAPS THROUGH ANKARA, TO HELP FORESTALL THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF DENKTASH'S CONSTITUTION.

5. I TOLD TZOUNIS THAT I WOULD REPORT THIS REQUEST IMMEDIATELY. IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE GREEKS VIEW THIS MATTER AND THE RISK THAT PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT FEDERATED STATE COULD TORPEDO THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, AS HAD DENKTASH'S INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN FEBRUARY, I RECOMMEND WE CONSIDER WEIGHING-IN WITH THE TURKS ON THIS ONE QUICKLY.
KUBISCH

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